

Programme Specification



1. Programme title	Foundation Degree Dance Performance
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3a Teaching institution	London Studio Centre
3b Language of study	English
4a Valid intake dates	September
4b Mode of study	Full Time
4c Delivery method	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-campus/Blended <input type="checkbox"/> Distance Education
5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body	None
6. Apprenticeship Standard	None
7. Final qualification(s) available	<i>Foundation Degree Dance Performance</i> <i>CertHE Dance Performance</i>
8. Academic year effective from	2024-2025

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Applicants will be assessed through their formal application which includes a live or recorded audition for the specialist pathway of ballet, contemporary dance, jazz and commercial dance or musical theatre. Details on the audition and criteria by which they are assessed can be found in LSC's Audition Criteria document online.

Applicants are normally expected to have:

- A minimum of Grade 4 in English or the equivalent qualification, plus four other GCSEs
- Current dance skills, practical knowledge, understanding of technique and style and the capacity for critical reflection on performance at Level 3 (for example A-Level Dance or graded subject specific examinations) demonstrated at audition and interview

- The aptitude for professionally orientated practical study of performance techniques at Levels 4 and 5 and potential to benefit from dance training as judged through audition
- A physical aptitude necessary to safely and successfully study an intensive programme confirmed at a physical examination by a qualified practitioner such as a physiotherapist.

Applicants who have non-standard qualifications (or who wish work or life experience to be taken into account as part of their application) will be considered on an individual basis, in line with the general aims and principles of the Admissions Policy and within the terms Middlesex University's Recognition of Previous Learning processes.

If an applicant's first language is not English, they will need an IELTS score of 6.0 or equivalent. If they require a visa to study in the UK, they will also need a minimum score of 5.5 in each individual component.

We are unable to accept applications for deferred entry or defer offers for this programme as applicants must retain a high level of fitness prior to enrolment.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

- Develop knowledge and critical understanding of the embodied practice of professional dance theatre performance
- Explore and critically analyse subject knowledge to foster curiosity, questioning and to stimulate debate and discussion
- Develop potential as creative artists working both independently and collaboratively to explore, reflect, problem solve and critically evaluate different approaches
- Support effective communication and performance skills in a variety of forms
- Inspire aspiring professional dance artists to take creative risks, innovate and challenge the professional dance landscape.

11. Programme outcomes*

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme you will be able to:

Teaching/learning methods

You will develop your knowledge and understanding in technique classes, workshops, lectures and seminars as outlined below.

A1: Recognise the development of dance and musical theatre as performing arts and the limits of this knowledge.

A2: Present knowledge and understanding of technique and performance skills relevant to the dance theatre profession and how to critically reflect upon this knowledge and understanding.

A3: Evaluate, analyse, interpret knowledge and situate yourself within the dance and musical theatre performance employment landscape.

A4: Evidence professional norms of being a creative artist within a variety of professional contexts.

A5: Link theory to practice through research informed by scholarship at the forefront of the discipline.

Technique classes allow you to put into practice the dance and/or musical theatre knowledge (A2, A4, A5) you are developing, ask questions, and actively engage in the feedback process.

Performance rehearsals is where you will engage with work-integrated learning to begin to embody professional norms and put into practice the knowledge you are developing in technique through performance (A2, A4).

Workshops allow you to create and explore concepts both practically and theoretically, developing your knowledge (A1, A4). These experiences introduce you to new ways of working collaboratively sometimes with guest artists who are influential within the industry.

Lectures and Seminars provide you with opportunities to reflect on historical, analytical, and research frameworks to contextualise your practical learning. These sessions develop your subject knowledge and understanding (A1-A5).

Assessment methods

Your knowledge is assessed both formatively and summatively through a range of methods designed to allow you to achieve your best and stretch your abilities.

Technique assessments allow you to demonstrate your achievement in the techniques you are studying as a dance and/or musical theatre artist. You will be asked to perform your skills in the context of the regular technique classes that you take as part of your daily practice or in performance either as an individual or as part of a group.

Performance assessments are where you put theory into practice and use the performance knowledge you have been developing in the work-integrated rehearsal process.

	<p>Oral presentation assessments allow you to communicate and illustrate your knowledge and understanding of concepts and ideas explored within a module using digital technologies. You will be asked to present your learning and articulate your responses to a pre-identified audience.</p> <p>Portfolio assessments enable you to artistically illustrate your learning in a variety of creative outputs often drawing on digital technologies to produce your work. These assessments facilitate new and exciting ways of presenting your understanding of the learning outcomes.</p>
<p>B. Skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme you will be able to:</p> <p>B1: Evidence technique and performance skills relating to your chosen pathway and the ability to interrogate them.</p> <p>B2: Demonstrate the ability to employ technique, technology, and/or an integrated knowledge of dance science to different situations including professional contexts to develop transferable skills.</p> <p>B3: Evaluate multiple perspectives of industry expectations to inform the performance of new and established repertoire and in the creation of new work.</p> <p>B4: Collaboratively and independently work within professionally orientated academic, rehearsal and performing contexts.</p> <p>B5: Effectively communicate techniques, performance, information, arguments, ideas and/or analysis to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.</p>	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>You will develop your practical skills in technique classes, workshops, lectures and seminars as outlined below.</p> <p>Technique classes allow you to put into practice the skills (B1, B2, B5) you are developing, ask questions, and actively engage in the feedback process.</p> <p>Performance rehearsals are where you will engage with work-integrated learning to begin to embody professional norms and put into practice the skills you are developing in technique through performance (B1, B3, B4, B5).</p> <p>Workshops allow you to create and explore concepts both practically and theoretically, developing your skills (B1, B2, B3). These experiences introduce you to new ways of working collaboratively sometimes with guest artists who are influential within the industry.</p> <p>Lectures provide you with opportunities to reflect on historical, analytical, and research frameworks to contextualise your practical learning. These sessions develop your skills (B1-B5).</p> <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Your skills are assessed both formatively and summatively through a range of</p>

	<p>methods designed to allow you to achieve your best and stretch your abilities.</p> <p>Practical Skills assessments allow you to demonstrate your achievement in the techniques you are studying as a dance and/or musical theatre artist. You will be asked to perform your skills in the context of the regular technique classes that you take as part of your daily practice or in performance either as an individual or as part of a group.</p> <p>Performance assessments are where you put theory into practice and use the performance skills you have been developing in the work-integrated rehearsal process.</p> <p>Oral presentation assessments allow you to communicate and illustrate your knowledge and understanding of concepts and ideas explored within a module using digital technologies. You will be asked to present your learning and articulate your responses to a pre-identified audience.</p> <p>Portfolio assessments enable you to artistically illustrate your learning in a variety of creative outputs often drawing on digital technologies to produce your work. These assessments facilitate new and exciting ways of presenting your understanding of the learning outcomes.</p>
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12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)
12.1 Structure of the programme
<p>The Foundation Degree Dance Performance is a full time, taught foundation degree programme that provides you with a thorough grounding in key dance techniques with a critical understanding and development of established skills in one specialist pathway of: ballet, contemporary dance, jazz and commercial dance or musical theatre. You can tailor parts of your timetable to explore different styles to become versatile performers ready to enter the industry. You will develop your knowledge of choreographic, contextual studies, and dance science, which are integrated to enhance professional performance practice. Through working with specialist teaching faculty and connections with industry professionals, you will develop transferable skills to ensure that you are employment ready</p>

and have extensive performance opportunities that are integrated into the curriculum throughout each year.

The programme offers versatile professional training in one of the four specialist pathways of ballet, contemporary dance, jazz and commercial dance, or musical theatre. Extensive performance opportunities are integrated into the curriculum throughout and the specialist teaching faculty at LSC has wide-ranging and current industry experience. With a clear focus on work-integrated learning and performance, alongside scaffolded study skills support to contextualise your learning, this programme is distinctive to other programmes offered at LSC.

The programme has been designed to develop graduates who are able to:

1. Demonstrate a thorough grounding in established dance and performance skills and knowledge and critical understanding of the art form, which they are able to apply in a range of choreographic and performance contexts.
2. Work collaboratively and independently in a variety of different employment settings to creatively contribute to the performing arts industry.
3. Organise their own learning and demonstrate resourcefulness and self-motivation, so as to continually adapt to a developing performing arts industry.

The programme offers:

- Versatile professional training in Ballet, Contemporary Dance, Jazz and Commercial Dance and Musical Theatre.
- Extensive performance opportunities integrated into the curriculum throughout the programme.
- Specialist teaching faculty with wide-ranging and current industry experience.

Each year of the FdA provides a year-long, 30-week teaching cycle for each of the four modules. Each module is compulsory. This model suits the requirements of dance and performing arts training, providing time for a repetition of a range of techniques throughout the year.

At the beginning of Level 4 (as agreed at registration prior to enrolment), you will choose one of four possible professional pathways: namely ballet, contemporary dance, jazz and commercial dance, or musical theatre. The expectation is that you choose the specialism in accordance with your audition process.

At Level 4, M402 Focused Performance Practice is the only module taught in four separate pathways: ballet, contemporary dance, jazz and commercial dance or musical theatre. It focuses on the development of performance skills and repertoire in your emerging specialism.

Normally, you will progress onto the same pathway at Level 5 in M502 Specialist Performance Practice, which is, again, the only module taught in the four pathways. Increased taught sessions are devoted to developing specialist techniques, performance skills and repertoire in your chosen field.

There are procedures in place to enable you to change your focus at appropriate points during Levels 4 and 5 should you wish to do so: namely, at the end of the first term and at the end of the year. It is still possible for you to apply to transfer from one pathway to

another during the first term of Level 5, up to the beginning of second term but not after it. Any change of pathway request must be supported by the evidence of sufficient engagement and ability in the new pathway, this could be demonstrated through summatively assessed achievement in M401, M405, M501, M505 and/or a targeted pathway audition. In addition, it should be supported by relevant tutor/Head of Department statements. You must assume responsibility for ensuring that you meet the requirements of the specific discipline to which you aspire.

The offer of a place is subject to the availability of a place in the new pathway. Students failing pathway assessments or who have failed to meet attendance requirements would not normally be permitted to change pathway.

Exit Award

You may exit with a CertHE Dance Performance after successfully completing Level 4.

Compulsory modules are those that must be taken, i.e., the award cannot be made unless these modules have been successfully completed. Each of these modules does not necessarily *uniquely* measure achievement of programme learning outcomes.

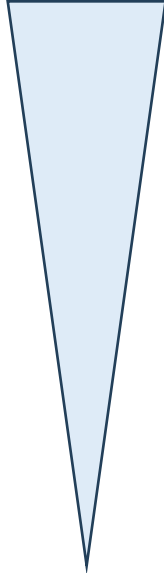
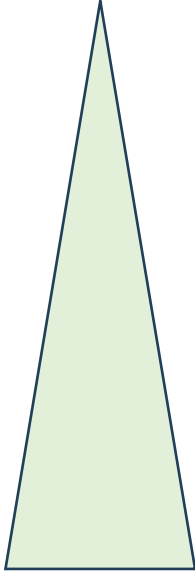
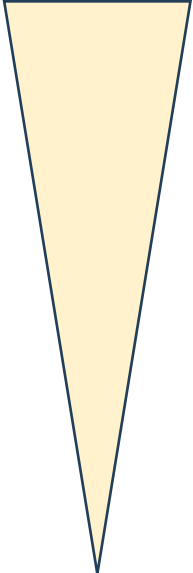
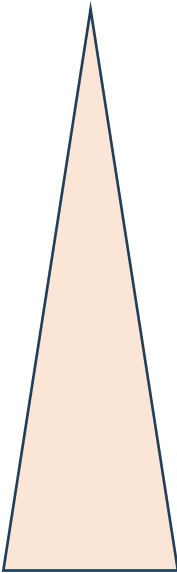
All the modules that comprise the degree programme are compulsory.

Curriculum Map

Level 4

	M401: Foundation Studies in Dance (40 credits)	M402: Focused Performance Practice (20 credits)	M405: Creative Practice and Employability Development (20 credits)	M406: Introduction to Contextual Studies, Dance Science and Collaborative Dance Practices (40 credits)
Term 1				
Term 2				
Term 3				

At this point students can exit with a CertHE Dance Performance

Level 5				
	M501: Professional Dance Practice (20 credits)	M502: Specialist Performance Practice (40 credits)	M505: Professional Skills Development (20 credits)	M506: Global Contexts of Dance, Theatre and Dance Science (40 credits)
Term 1				
Term 2				
Term 3				

12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 4		
Compulsory	Optional	Progression requirements
<p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <p>M401: Foundation Studies in Dance (40 credits)</p> <p>M402: Focused Performance Practice (20 credits)</p> <p>M405: Creative Practice and Employability Development (20 Credits)</p> <p>M406: Introduction to Contextual Studies, Dance Science and Collaborative Dance Practices (40 Credits)</p>	<p>There are no optional modules.</p>	<p>All four modules must be completed to progress.</p>

Level 5		
Compulsory	Optional	Progression requirements
<p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <p>M501: Professional Dance Practice (20 credits)</p> <p>M502: Specialist Performance Practice (40 credits)</p> <p>M505: Professional Skills Development (20 credits)</p> <p>M506: Global Contexts of Dance, Theatre and Dance Science (40 credits)</p>	<p>There are no optional modules</p>	<p>All four modules must be completed in order to achieve the award.</p>

*Please refer to your programme page on the website re availability of option modules

12.3 Non-compensatable modules	
Module level	Module code
Level 5	M502
	M506

13. Information about assessment regulations
<p>See the University's regulations, which can be found at https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies. London Studio Centre uses a 0-100 marking scheme for assessed work, which is explained in the Foundation Degree Dance Performance handbook.</p>

14. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)
N/A

15. Future careers / progression
<p>LSC has an existing strong track record of preparing students to enter industry or further study. In the two years LSC has been running this programme, the majority of the students who have completed the FdA Dance Performance programme continued their education with London Studio Centre by joining our BA (Hons) Professional Performance (Top-up) programme.</p>

Beyond the opportunity to earn a BA through our top-up degree, graduates from the FdA Dance Performance programme may go immediately into the industry to access the many performance opportunities available to them.

The programme has been designed in consultation with employers within the Dance Performance industry to ensure that the curriculum matches industry expectations and requirements. This consultation will continue in annual course monitoring to ensure that LSC keeps on top of changes and enhancements to employment expectations. In addition, employers will often be part of the course delivery, giving you direct access to those contacts, which may be useful upon graduation.

Work Integrated Learning: The ethos of developing employability skills is integrated and thoroughly embedded into this programme through work-integrated learning. M401: Foundation Studies in Dance and M402: Focused Performance Practice achieves this through study with industry-experienced professionals to introduce you to a range of techniques and performing opportunities. This foundation is built on in Level 5 through M502: Specialist Performance Practice encouraging you to learn, rehearse and perform established repertoire and/or newly devised work in the context of a professional working environment.

Professional Development and Employability Advice: You will receive expert guidance on your professional development and employability through M405: Creative Practice and Employability Development and M505: Professional Skills Development. These modules provide you with practical guidance on your chosen professional field. Whether it is audition practice and preparation, building a spotlight profile, or researching how to self-tape, these modules are situated within the current landscape of dance and musical theatre professional practice to best prepare you for your future careers.

Progression onto a BA (Hons) Top-up: The majority of graduates from this programme choose to join our BA (Hons) Professional Performance (Top-up), though the FdA prepares all graduates to join any such programme in future. You will receive expert tuition in study-skills and other contextual studies areas that will prepare you for study on any Level 6 programme of study.

By the time you graduate from the FdA Dance Performance you will feel well equipped for direct career entry or progression onto the BA Top-up of your choice.

16. Particular support for learning

London Studio Centre welcomes students with disabilities, learning differences, long-term illness, injury and neurodivergent conditions. If applicable, and supported by evidence, reasonable adjustments will be negotiated to support your learning and assessments.

LSC endeavours to provide accessible and inclusive education for all students. When additional support needs are identified for an individual student, reasonable adjustments may address any specific differences that are creating barriers to learning. Additional support might include extra tutorials, study skills guidance, and/or assessment adjustments, as well as specific advice for understanding learning and processing differences.

Your learning needs can be discussed and possibly recorded as a Learning Support Agreement (LSA). An LSA outlines reasonable adjustments, notes about any specific

barriers to learning, and offers advice for you and the teaching and assessment staff to ensure that your needs are being met to facilitate your academic progression.

If you suspect a learning difference (such as dyslexia), or a neurodivergent condition (such as Autism or ADHD), but lack a diagnosis or assessment, LSC will support you on a case-by-case basis in accordance with Government legislation.

During induction week your strength, flexibility and biomechanics, will be assessed to support your dance training. Throughout our Independent Professional Development and Dance Science classes, you will learn how to independently manage your physical well-being, and address any weaknesses identified during your physical tests.

During the first term, you will be invited to a health and wellbeing 1:1 to support your individual progression through the programme.

You will also benefit from the Physical Support Scheme at London Studio Centre, which, in the event of an injury, will support you through treatment and rehabilitation to optimise your recovery.

17. HECos code(s)

100712

18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s)

Dance Drama and Performance (2019)
QAA Characteristic Statement for
Foundation Degrees (2020)

19. Reference points

QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
QAA The UK Quality Code for Higher Education
OfS Regulatory Framework
Middlesex University Regulations
Middlesex University Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook
London Studio Centre's policies, procedures and strategies

20. Other information

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

21. Curriculum map for *Foundation Degree Dance Performance*

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding	
A1	Recognise the development of dance and musical theatre as performing arts and the limits of this knowledge
A2	Present knowledge and understanding of technique and performance skills relevant to the dance theatre profession and how to critically reflect upon this knowledge and understanding
A3	Evaluate, analyse, interpret knowledge and situate yourself within the dance and musical theatre performance employment landscape
A4	Evidence professional norms of being a creative artist within a variety of professional contexts
A5	Link theory to practice through research informed by scholarship at the forefront of the discipline.
Skills	
B1	Evidence technique and performance skills relating to your chosen pathway and the ability to interrogate them
B2	Demonstrate the ability to employ technique, technology, and/or an integrated knowledge of dance science to different situations including professional contexts to develop transferable skills
B3	Evaluate multiple perspectives of industry expectations to inform the performance of new and established repertoire and in the creation of new work
B4	Collaboratively and independently work within professionally orientated academic, rehearsal and performing contexts
B5	Effectively communicate techniques, performance, information, arguments, ideas and/or analysis to both specialist and non-specialist audiences

Programme outcomes														
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8
Highest level achieved by all graduates														
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

Module Title	Module Code by Level	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5
		X	X		X		X	X			X
Foundation Studies in Dance	M401	X	X		X		X	X			X
Focused Performance Practice	M402		X		X		X		X		

Creative Practice and Employability Development	M405			X			X		X	X	
Introduction to Contextual Studies, Dance Science and Collaborative Dance Practices	M406	X	X	X		X		X		X	X
Professional Dance Practice	M501	X	X		X		X	X			X
Specialist Performance Practice	M502		X		X	X	X		X	X	
Professional Skills Development	M505			X			X				
Global Contexts of Dance, Theatre and Dance Science	M506	X	X	X		X		X		X	X